

**Organized Neighbors of Summerhill (ONS)
Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 5, 2017**

Call to Order

John Colabelli, president, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves.

Quality of Life/Public Safety/Code Compliance

- Lt. Finch, evening watch commander for zone 3, presented the Atlanta Police Department (APD) report. He conveyed crime is down 33% for the same period last year; six crimes the past month three of which were vehicle larcenies.. He emphasized the clean car campaign encouraging residents to make sure no items are visible are left in their vehicles, particularly firearms. The traffic plan for Universoul was discussed. Carter representatives stated they had off-duty police working security for the circus. Finch confirmed they off-duty APD officers would be in communication via police radio. Residents also discussed the problematic parking on Fulton Street at Martin Street; vehicles parking too close to the intersection obscures vehicles turning from Martin onto Fulton. Colabelli stated tis location would be added to the neighborhood “hot spots” list.
- Neighbor Sheila Clark wanted to bring attention to the effect on property values and value estimates by Realtor.com on those who had been in the empowerment zone tax abatement area. Colabelli emphasized the necessity of staying vigilant on valuations for upcoming year tax assessments.
- Colabelli relayed the Universoul circus had been testing sound levels throughout the neighborhood the past weekend with further testing planned this week. He noted the contract between and Carter and Universoul stipulating the requirement for extremely low noise levels. He encouraged residents to report any problems with sound.

Old Business

- The prior meeting minutes from January 2018 were approved by the membership, 15-0.
- 112 Ormond parking variance was approved at NPU-V meeting consistent with the recommendation of ONS discussed last month.

New Business

Carter provided an update that renovation continues on the Georgia Avenue buildings; no new business announcements were made.

Program: Speaker/Event/Presentation

- Bryan Adams, vice-president, provided an update on the grants being pursued for the Phoenix II park improvements relaying that all were on track and that an April open house date would be announced later.
- John Helton, secretary, announced the yard signs and door hangers to advertise meetings and ONS resources had been received and solicited neighbors to help manage the signs, posting them and retrieving them to promote first Monday meetings. Door hangers will be distributed by zones being developed by public safety. Helton relayed the Stadium Neighborhood Communities Trust Fund committee, which he chairs, has its first meeting scheduled; no activity has occurred to date. Helton explained the group was appointed by the mayor and city council to provide oversight for the \$5 million in funding allocated from the sale of Turner Field and adjacent properties for neighborhood betterment projects.
- Wanda Rasheed, treasurer, explained he FY 2018 budget was being finalized and would be posted on-line. She also highlighted the Storyteller Project, “There’s Something About Summerhill,” and encouraged residents who

did not make the Georgia State University (GSU) exhibition to listen for the announcement when it will be at Atlanta City Hall (to be arranged by Councilperson Carla Smith).

- Michael Lievers, public safety chairman, explained he is working with the police department to develop a neighborhood watch program. He is also working to identify block captains for neighborhood zones. Resident Leaders for Equality training, sponsored by Annie Casey Foundation and Southern Equality, was discussed. The deadline has been extended to Friday and the link is on the website and in the ONS newsletter. Colabelli advised he and Lievers had applied. Lievers also explained the neighborhood sign project was in its next phase of development and responded to an inquiry that the Olympic rings would not be used.
- Other: The proposed redistricting that emerged and then was rescinded the past week that would divert Jackson Cluster students from Parkside Elementary School to Barack and Michelle Obama (BAMO) Elementary School and Benteen Elementary School was discussed. Currently, Parkside is reported to have 628 students, BAMO 250 students and Benteen 288 students. Much discussion ensued and Atlanta Board of Education Leslie Grant (404-643-9652) clarified issues; she encouraged neighbors to call her with any questions or suggestions. The action was initially promulgated by the schools' GO teams who ultimately determined this action and level of decision-making belonged at the school board level; Summerhill leadership was not consulted. Colabelli announced a community meeting to be held the following night at BAMO at 6 p.m. and Grant encouraged attendance. She stated the whiplash to this announcement by affected neighborhoods underscored that this is not the way this decision-making should have happened. The notion that Parkside is overcrowded was challenged; Suzanne Mitchell noted the most affected group of children were from Summerhill Plaza and she was not pleased with the lack of community involvement in the proposal. Grant said she believed Atlanta schools needed a much more robust planning process. Colabelli summarized that based on the speed of the announcement and lack of information, the ONS board could not support the action based on the process, not necessarily the intended outcome. Colabelli stated Timmy Foster, principal of Parkside, would attend the next ONS meeting. Colabelli stated that Christina Nixon volunteered to be a liaison to the school system; he nominated her to be the board appointed liaison leading an education committee to gather information about issues involving education and advising ONS on activities.

Announcements/Events and Updates

Colabelli called attention to the event listing on the back of the agenda. He called attention to the 2017 recap of accomplishments and encouraged input for 2018 goals.

Adjournment

Colabelli adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

ONS Budget 2018

Expense Item	ONS Account	ONS Account balance on hand Jan. 2018	Phoenix Park II Expansion	Phoenix Park II Balance on hand Jan. 2018	Description	ONS Expenses for 2018	ONS Account balance on hand Jan.2019
		\$5,965.71		\$9,100			
GA Business Registration	\$30				Sec. of State Annual Fee		

Friends of Park Pride	\$50				Annual Fee		
USPS Mailbox	\$76				Annual Fee		
Tool Bank	\$15				Annual Fee		
Office Supplies	\$130				General Supplies		
Parking Fee	\$65				ONS Activities		
Printing/Business Cards	\$980				General printing		
SNDC Contributions	\$300				SNDC Reunion		
Travel/Gas	\$30				Gas for ONS travel		
Website Upgrade	\$100				Website Services		
Misc. Obligated Reserve	\$4,189.71				Misc.		
Phoenix Park II Expansion			\$9,100		Phoenix Park II Expansion Expenses		
Totals	\$5,965.71	\$5,965.71	\$9,100	\$9,100			